SYCAMORE COTTAGE - High Street

Sycamore Cottage, now the headquarters for the Woman's Club, dates to sometime after 1759 and was originally the front part of 114 High Street. It was built by Rev. Daniel Maynadier and his wife Mary Maynadier, a French Huguenot who fled to escape persecution, was the Rector of Great Choptank Parish from 1765 to 1772. Four generations of Maynadiers owned Sycamore Cottage. In 1828 it was sold to Henry Page and his wife Charlotte. Page sold the front part of his house in 1840, to Jeremiah Wright, who moved it to its present location on High Street. The original woodwork has been rmoved from the interior and additions have been made to the rear. The exterior of this two story frame building is relatively unaltered, however, having a center entrance hall, gambril roof, and beaded weatherboard. Sycamore Cottage is significant as one of the few surviving examples of Georgian architecture in Cambridge.

Entered: 3/30/88

National Register of Historic Places Registration Form

This form is for use in nominating or requesting determinations of eligibility for individual properties or districts. See instructions in *Guidelines* for Completing National Register Forms (National Register Bulletin 16). Complete each item by marking "x" in the appropriate box or by entering the requested information. If an item does not apply to the property being documented, enter "N/A" for "not applicable." For functions, styles, materials, and areas of significance, enter only the categories and subcategories listed in the instructions. For additional space use continuation sheets (Form 10-900a). Type all entries.

1. Name of Property			
historic name	Sycamore Cottage	2	
other names/site number		s Club Headquarters	
2. Location			
street & number	417 High Street		not for publication N/A
city, town	Cambridge		vicinity N/A
state Maryland code	MD county	Dorchester code	019 zip code 21613
3. Classification			
Ownership of Property	Category of Property	Number of R	esources within Property
X private	X building(s)	Contributing	Noncontributing
public-local	district	1	0 buildings
public-State	site		sites
public-Federal	structure		structures
•	object		objects
			0 Total
Name of related multiple property listing	ıg:	Number of co	ontributing resources previously
N/A	<u> </u>		National Register0
4. State/Federal Agency Certifica	etion		
4. State/rederal Agency Certifica	ILIOII		
As the designated authority under the X nomination request for determinational Register of Historic Places In my opinion, the property X meet	mination of eligibility me and meets the procedu	ets the documentation standards ral and professional requiremen	s for registering properties in the ts set forth in 36 CFR Part 60.
- MATE			2 - 8 - 8 V
Signature of certifying official STATE HISTORIC PRESERVAT			Date
State or Federal agency and bureau H	ousing and Commun	nity Development, Mary	land Historical Trust
In my opinion, the property meet	ts does not meet the	National Register criteria.	See continuation sheet.
Signature of commenting or other officia	I		Date
State or Federal agency and bureau			
5. National Park Service Certifica	ntion		
I, hereby, certify that this property is:			
entered in the National Register.			
See continuation sheet.			
determined eligible for the National			
Register. See continuation sheet.			
determined not eligible for the			
National Register.			
removed from the National Register other, (explain:)		·	
		Signature of the Keeper	Date of Action

D-	1	4	2

Historic Functions (enter categories from instructions)	Current Fund	ctions (enter categories from instructions
single dwelling	<u>club</u>	louse
7. Description		
Architectural Classification	Materials (er	nter categories from instructions)
(enter categories from instructions)		
(enter categories from instructions)	foundation _	brick
Colonial	foundation _ walls	brick weatherboard
Colonial		weatherboard

Describe present and historic physical appearance.

DESCRIPTION SUMMARY

Built in the eighteenth century, possibly as early as 1765, Sycamore Cottage is a one and a half story, single pile, gambrel roof frame structure with beaded weatherboards, Victorian windows, a central Colonial Revival entrance porch, 1840s Greek Revival interior decorative detailing, and a large one story meeting hall covered with aluminum siding projecting from the back. The building sets back a few feet from the side walk with modest landscaping along the front and side and a parking lot to the back.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number ⁷	Page _	1	Sycamore Cottage Dorchester County, Maryland	(D-142)
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GENERAL DESCRIPTION

Sycamore Cottage, c. 1765, has been located at 417 High Street, Cambridge, Maryland since 1840. Prior to that time it was located at 116 High Street. It is a three bay, 1 1/2 story, single pile, braced frame dwelling covered in beaded weatherboard. A small 1840 braced frame addition is located at the rear with a large 1932 addition attached to that wing. The wings are sided in aluminum over weatherboard.

Sycamore Cottage is located at the edge of Cambridge's business district and at the beginning of a large residential neighborhood. Directly to the north of the building is the modern office of the Chesapeake and Potomac Telephone Company. The lot on the south side is a used-car lot and a small lot owned by the Woman's Club that used to contain the city water tank. To the rear or west is open space. The telephone company has been located next to Sycamore Cottage for most of this century. The first building was erected between 1911 and 1918. The used car lot occupies space that was formerly the site of a clothing factory.

Originally built as a hall-parlor dwelling, the house has had a number of changes made to it over the past years. It was thought to have been constructed of sawn planks since the exterior walls are only five inches thick. Recently, a small hole was cut through the plaster to reveal the original braced frame members. The exposed framing was hewn. The hole was cut to expose the corner post and bracing.

It has a common rafter gambrel roof. The dormers and the decorative scroll trim are original. The windows and the barge board trim are nineteenth century additions. The roof framing shows evidence of repair with nineteenth and twentieth century nails. These nails are clearly not part of the original framing.

In 1840, the house was moved from its original location. Local tradition holds that the original rear wing was left behind and incorporated into the new Greek-Revival dwelling constructed at 116 High Street (D-190). The move required that some extensive changes be made to the house. The chimneys were rebuilt, the south chimney as an interior gable-end chimney and the north chimney as a partial exterior gable-end chimney. A new rear wing was built. The wing contained the stairs and kitchen. The stairs are plain. They rise in two runs to the second floor. The banister is varnished wood with a plain turned newel post and balustrade. The exterior was resided with sawn beaded weatherboard. The interior was fitted with new mantels on each floor and a new Greek-Revival door installed on the front. The rear door is original. The first floor mantels have a three part entablature and side columns. The second floor mantels have a plain recessed entablature and side pilasters.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _	7	Page _	2	Sycamore Cottage Dorchester County, Maryland	(D-142)
				borenesser country, Maryland	

The two rooms on the second floor of the main block retain their original dividing wall. The south room contains a double closet and is the location of the original half-winder stair between the two floors. The wing's upper floor has a second kitchen for a tenant, a bathroom and a small sitting room. The House was updated again in the late nineteenth century. The exact date is unknown but the style, workmanship, and material is of that same period. The original windows were replaced with two over two sash. Decorative trim was added to the gable ends and a full porch was placed across the facade. The extent of these changes, especially the porch, is shown in a pre-1922 photograph at the Woman's Club.

When the Woman's Club purchased the building in 1922, they removed the interior partition to create one large room. The club also removed the porch and replaced it with the present Colonial-Revival portico and benches. In 1932, the Club added a large meeting room to the rear of the 1840 wing. It has a raised stage at the rear or west end. A series of small windows light this room. There is no decorative work or trim in this room. When originally built this wing was sided in plain weatherboard. It was aluminum sided in the early 1960s.

The original floor in the main section of the house was removed in 1946 and replaced with a concrete floor. This action was taken to correct extensive termite damage and was performed by a local contractor.

The landscaping is simple. The rear yard is designed for parking. It is unpaved as is the drive that is in the south side. There are a few trees in the front yard. There is a flower bed on the north side dividing the Woman's Club property from that of the telephone company.

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Certifying official has considered the significance of this property	in relation to other properties: tewide X locally	
Applicable National Register Criteria XA BXC	D	
Criteria Considerations (Exceptions)	D DE F G	
Areas of Significance (enter categories from instructions)	Period of Significance	Significant Dates
Architecture	c. 1765 - 1938	
Social History		
	Cultural Affiliation N/A	
Significant Person N/A	Architect/Builder	
	unknown	

State significance of property, and justify criteria, criteria considerations, and areas and periods of significance noted above.

SIGNIFICANCE SUMMARY

Sycamore Cottage is architecturally and historically significant. Built possible as early as 1765, Sycamore Cottage is one of only four surviving examples of an eighteen century gambrel roof building in Dorchester County and the only one standing in Cambridge. Documentation indicates that many more were built but most were demolished over time. The building also has excellent examples of Greek Revival interior decorative detailing as seen in the mantels and trim which were installed at the time the house was moved and redecorated. Although not the only examples of this woodwork in the town, it contributes to our understanding of range of expression this style had in Cambridge. Since 1922, Sycamore Cottage has been the headquarters of the Cambridge Woman's Club, a social active organization that has had a strong impact on the town's history. Through this organization were founded such cultural and civic groups as the county historical society, library, hospital auxiliary, Red Cross chapter, and garden club.

NPS Form 10-900-e

OMB Approval No. 1024-0018

United States Department of the Interior National Park Service

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _	8	Page	1	Sycamore Cottage Dorchester County, Maryland	(D -/ 42)
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CONTEXT:

Sycamore Cottage, as with most cultural resources, falls into a number of historic contexts. Geographically, the property is located on the Eastern Shore of Maryland. It was built during Maryland's rural agrarian intensification period and during a period when Cambridge was consolidating its control over Dorchester County's economy and its social/religious life. The house was built as a home for the County's Anglican minister. The house was moved to make way for a newer, larger dwelling during Cambridge's transition to a major shipping point and commercial center on the Eastern Shore. nineteenth century alterations and the purchase by the Woman's Club occurred during a period of increased industrialization in Cambridge as canneries and boatyards dominated the economy of the city. Within each period, Sycamore Cottage reflects the theme of architecture as a dwelling. In the modern period (post 1930) it represents a physical manifestation of Cambridge's colonial past as an eighteenth century building which was made more "colonial" two generations ago with the addition of its Colonial-Revival porch. post-1922 history, it reflects the social/educational/cultural theme as the home of the Cambridge Woman's Club.

Sycamore Cottage is significant as the headquarters of the Cambridge Woman's Club since 1922. This important Cambridge social club has helped establish a number of important local institutions such as the Dorchester County Historical Society and the Dorchester County Public Library. The club house has also been used by other community groups as their meeting place and its members have been active community leaders.

Sycamore Cottage, erected in 1765, is one of the oldest houses in Cambridge and in Dorchester County. It is one of only four gambrel roofed buildings in the county and the only one in Cambridge. While its age makes it a local landmark, the building also reflects a number of important economic and social changes in Cambridge making it a physical source book of Cambridge history.

Sycamore Cottage is believed to have been in 1765 as a house for the Reverend Daniel Maynadier, Jr. and his wife. He was the rector of the Great Choptank Parish from 1765 until his death in 1772. Maynadier was a son of the Reverend Daniel Maynadier, a rector of St. Peter's or the White Marsh Parish in Talbot County. The younger Maynadier was trained as a physician. In 1760, he was ordained into the Anglican Church. That same year he served a five week period as a curate at the Great Choptank Parish prior to an appointment as rector at St. John's Parish, Queen Anne County. In 1765, he returned to Cambridge as rector of the Great Choptank Parish. At this time he built Sycamore Cottage on his wife's land.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	8	Page2	Sycamore Cottage	(D -/ 42)
			Dorchester County, Maryland	

In 1760, Maynadier, Jr. married Mary Murray. She was the daughter of James Murray. At her marriage, her father gave her the property at 116 High Street as a wedding present. At that time the parcel was known as lot 10 of the original John Kirk patent. Kirk had sold several lots including #10 in 1739 to William vans Murray. At his death in 1759, the High Street properties were left to his son James Murray.

As was common at the time, Mary Murray Maynadier's land became the responsibility of her husband. The 1766 Dorchester County Debt Book shows that the land rent was owed by the husband for the wife's land. The same Debt Book shows that Maynadier held in his own name the following properties: Cullins Interest, 114 3/4 acres, Murray's Friendship, 52 acres, Stewart's Marsh, 10 acres, and Stewart's Expectation, 274 1/2 acres. The 1767 and 1770 Debt Books show the same land holdings.

Maynadier died in 1772. His will did not survive the 1851 fire at the Dorchester County Court House. His wife continued to live in the house they had built. In 1783, the assessment record lists Mary Maynadier as holding one frame dwelling house, one kitchen and two logged houses on lot 10 in Cambridge. The property was valued at 150 pounds. This was in the middle range of assessments in Cambridge. The 1798 Federal Direct Tax does not exist for Dorchester County.

At Mary Maynadier's death the property passed to her granddaughters, Hannah and Margaret, and through them to William Murray Maynadier. In 1828, he sold the house and property to Henry Page. Page was a lawyer and politician. He served as a state senator from 1832 to 1835. In 1840, Page sold the house to Jeremiah Wright who moved the house to 417 High Street. Wright is the one for whom the 1840 changes were made.

It is unclear as to why Wright moved the house. The upper section of High Street was being developed at the same time as Cambridge expanded economically as a shipping point and commercial center on the middle Eastern Shore. The 1853 map of Cambridge that Richard Upjohn's firm drew for the County Court House he designed shows a town beginning to take shape with High Street extending to Washington Street and streets running eastward towards the Cambridge Creek. The history of the house at 417 High Street between 1840 and 1877 is not clear. In 1877, the house was tied up in the estate of William Rea. He was a very active real estate entrepreneur. The chain of title from his death backwards is lost within his estate holdings while the chain of title from Wright forward is lost within missing court house records. The house was sold in 1877 to Sallie W. Wright by Rea's estate. She held the property until 1905. It was sold and mortgaged twice until 1922 when the Cambridge Woman's Club acquired the property for \$2,000.

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number _	8	Page _	3	Sycamore Cottage Dorchester County, Maryland	(D -/ 42)
				borchester country, Maryland	

The Cambridge Woman's Club was formed in 1898 as the "Literary Study Group." In 1900, the Club took its present name. It originally met in the homes of members but eventually found a home on Race Street in the Masonic Lodge. When the Lodge needed more space, the Club was forced to find other quarters in 1922. That same year the Club bought Sycamore Cottage.

The Club has always attracted socially active women. Among its early presidents were two of Maryland's first ladies, Mrs. Philips Lee Goldsborough and Mrs. Emerson C. Harrington. In 1901, the Club joined the Maryland Federation of Women's Clubs and in 1923, the Club became a member of the General Federation of Women's Clubs.

One of the first projects of the Club was the creation of a lending The club had always maintained a small lending library for its members. When they moved into Sycamore Cottage, the rear wing was turned over to a library space that was available to all Cambridge residents. library eventually became the Dorchester County Public Library. Dorchester County Red Cross Chapter was organized in 1917. The Red Cross used Sycamore Cottage as a meeting place after 922. The Auxiliary for the Cambridge Hospital, now the Dorchester General Hospital, was formed at Sycamore Cottage in 1921. Their meetings were held at Sycamore Cottage for a number of years. In 1930, the Dorchester Garden Club was organized by Woman's Club members interested in gardening and in the beautification of Cambridge. The Garden Club has arranged for trees to be planted along Maryland Avenue and in the downtown area. During this same time period, the local chapter of the Girl Scouts of America was formed by club member, Miss Nannie Waddell. Miss Waddell has also left a large trust fund that is used to advance the life of Dorchester County residents.

Sycamore Cottage was used extensively during World War II to produce knitted garments and surgical dressings were turned out for the war effort. Recent Woman's Club activity was the creation of the Dorchester County Historical Society in 1958. Almost all of the social and civic clubs in Cambridge have members of the Woman's Club as active members and as officers and board members. The large meeting room has been used by many local groups for their activities. Both the Salvation Army and the Rotary Club have met there. A local church presently uses the meeting room for its Sunday services and weekly meetings.

While the various changes to the building might seem to obscure the original building, the scale and massing are still that of an eighteenth century dwelling. The 1840s. The 1840s wing is in keeping with the bulk of the main block. The 1932 wing is low and not readily visible from the street. Sycamore Cottage is also one of just six eighteenth century buildings in

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number .	88	Page _	4	Sycamore Cottage	(D - 42)
				Dorchester County, Maryland	

Cambridge. All are located on lower High Street except this one. The majority of the extant buildings in Cambridge date to the late nineteenth and early twentieth century.

The significance of Sycamore Cottage rests in two areas. The first is its architectural significance as an eighteenth century dwelling in a community that is nineteenth and twentieth century in physical appearance. The second area is the use of the cottage by the Cambridge Woman's Club. This important social club and its members have been active in almost every important organization in Cambridge since the club's founding in 1889.

9.	Major	Bibliograp	hical	Ref	erences

See Continuation Sheet No. 9.1

Previous documentation on file (NPS): preliminary determination of individual listing (36 CFR 67) has been requested previously listed in the National Register previously determined eligible by the National Register designated a National Historic Landmark recorded by Historic American Buildings Survey # recorded by Historic American Engineering Record #	X See continuation sheet 9.1 Primary location of additional data: State historic preservation office Other State agency Federal agency Local government University X Other Specify repository: Cambridge Woman's Club
10. Geographical Data	
Acreage of property <u>.29 acres</u>	
Cambridge, MD quadrangle UTM References A 1 8 4 0 5 9 7 0 4 2 6 9 4 2 0 Zone Easting Northing C	B
Verbal Boundary Description	
The nomination includes the rectangular city described in Dorchester County Deed Book 11/3 on the attached tax parcel map and outlined to	00. The property boundaries are marked
	See continuation sheet
Boundary Justification	
The bounds included in this nomination included with Sycamore Cottage since the 1840 move to	
	See continuation sheet
11. Form Prepared By	i mana
name/title <u>Stephen G. Del Sordo</u> , Historian Cha organization <u>Dorchester</u> Co. Committee/MD Historica	irman 1 Trust _{date} September 1987
street & number _305 Oakley Street	1 Trust date <u>September 1987</u> telephone <u>302-736-5685</u>
city or townCambridge	state Maryland zip code 21613

National Register of Historic Places Continuation Sheet

Section number	9	Page	Sycamore Cottage Dorchester County, Maryland	(D -1 42)
				

- Cambridge Woman's Club Brief History, (Cambridge, MD: Cambridge Woman's Club, 1968)
- Dean, Gail "60 Years Service to Woman's Club" in The Daily Banner (Cambridge, MD) CIV; 87, May 3, 1983, page 1
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- Weeks, Christopher, ed <u>Between the Nanticoke and the Choptank</u>, (Baltimore, MD: The Johns Hopkins University Press, 1984)
- Dorchester County Debt Books, 1766, 1767, 1770, located in the Maryland Hall of Records
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- Vestry of Great Choptank Parish <u>Great Choptank Parish</u>, 1693-1974, (Cambridge, MD: Vestry of Great Choptank Parish, 1975)

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST

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CONDITION

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CHECK ONE

__EXCELLENT

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__ORIGINAL SITE

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__UNEXPOSED

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DATE 1840 ___

DESCRIBE THE PRESENT AND ORIGINAL (IF KNOWN) PHYSICAL APPEARANCE

The eldest pertiens of this building, new used as the headquarters for the Wemans Club, are the front pertien and the small wing to the rear of this which adjoins with a larger and more recent wing. The 2 stery gambril roofed front pertien, symmetrical in design, is typical of the Georgian era. There are three bays on the front of the structure and the wood siding is beaded along the lower edge. In front of the center door is a gabled portice supported by rectangular columns with wood benches facing each other on either side of the door. This portice is apparently a non-original feature, as an old photograph of Sycamore Cottage canadaby the Womans Club shows the building with a one story perch across the front (this was probably also an added feature). The original 4 panel door on the front of the house has a transom light above. There is a single parlor on the first floor of the interior which retains the mantels and doors, although the old hardware and window sash have been removed and the floor covered with lineleum.

The fermer siding and weedwerk have been removed from the connecting wing to the rear of this, although the external brick chimney on the west end of the wing is now enclosed within the interior wall of the large from which was added behind this.

PERIOD	AF	REAS OF SIGNIFICANCE CH	ECK AND JUSTIFY BELOW	
PREHISTORIC	ARCHEOLOGY-PREHISTORIC	COMMUNITY PLANNING	_LANDSCAPE ARCHITECTURE	RELIGION
1400-1499	ARCHEOLOGY-HISTORIC	CONSERVATION	LAW	SCIENCE
1500-1599	AGRICULTURE	ECONOMICS	LITERATURE	SCULPTURE
1600-1699	* ARCHITECTURE	EDUCATION	MILITARY	_SOCIAL/HUMANITARIAN
X 1700-1799	ART	ENGINEERING	MUSIC	THEATER
1800-1899	COMMERCE	EXPLORATION/SETTLEMENT	PHILOSOPHY	TRANSPORTATION
1900-	COMMUNICATIONS	INDUSTRY	POLITICS/GOVERNMENT	_OTHER (SPECIFY)
		INVENTION		
SPECIFIC DAT	ES	BUILDER/ARCI	HITECT	

STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

History:

Sycamere Cottage, which dates to sometime after 1759, was eriginally the front part of what is now llk High Street. It was built by Rev. Daniel Maynadier and his wife Mary. Maynadier was a French Huguenot who fled to escape persection. He was the Rector of Great Choptank Parish from 1765 to 1772. His wife was the granddaughter of William Vans Murray who purchased this land from John Kirk in 1725. The land was conveyed to Mary by James Murray, the son of William Vans Murray, in 1759. She and her husband built Sycamore Cottage shortly thereafter. Four generations of Maynadiers owned Sycamore Cottage. In 1828, it was sold to Henry Page and his wife Charlotte. Page sold the front part of his house to Jeremiah Wright, who moved it to its present location on High Street in 1840. The structure is now used as the headquarters for the Wemans Club.

Significance:

This building is significant as one of the surviving 18th century dwellings in Cambridge. Although it has undergone some alterations, the form of the front portion is still typical of a small 18th century house with a gambril roof.

9 MAJOR BIBLIOGRAPHICAL REFERENCES

Cel. Clement Sullivane, article reprinted in the Daily Banner, April 23, 1925

CONTINUE ON SEPARATE SHEET	I IF NECESSARY	
10 GEOGRAPHICAL DATA		
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11 FORM PREPARED BY		
NAME / TITLE		
Catherine L. Moore ORGANIZATION		
ORGANIZATION	•	DATE 4 /00 /24
STREET & NUMBER		6/22/76 TELEPHONE
Route 3. Box 32		228-5963
CITY OR TOWN		STATE
Cambri dga		Maryland

The Maryland Historic Sites Inventory was officially created by an Act of the Maryland Legislature, to be found in the Annotated Code of Maryland, Article 41, Section 181 KA, 1974 Supplement.

The Survey and Inventory are being prepared for information and record purposes only and do not constitute any infringement of individual property rights.

RETURN TO: Maryland Historical Trust

The Shaw House, 21 State Circle

Annapolis, Maryland 21401

(301) 267-1438

MARYLAND HISTORICAL TRUST WORKSHEET

1001 424210

NOMINATION FORM for the NATIONAL REGISTER OF HISTORIC PLACES, NATIONAL PARKS SERVICE

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STATEMENT OF SIGNIFICANCE

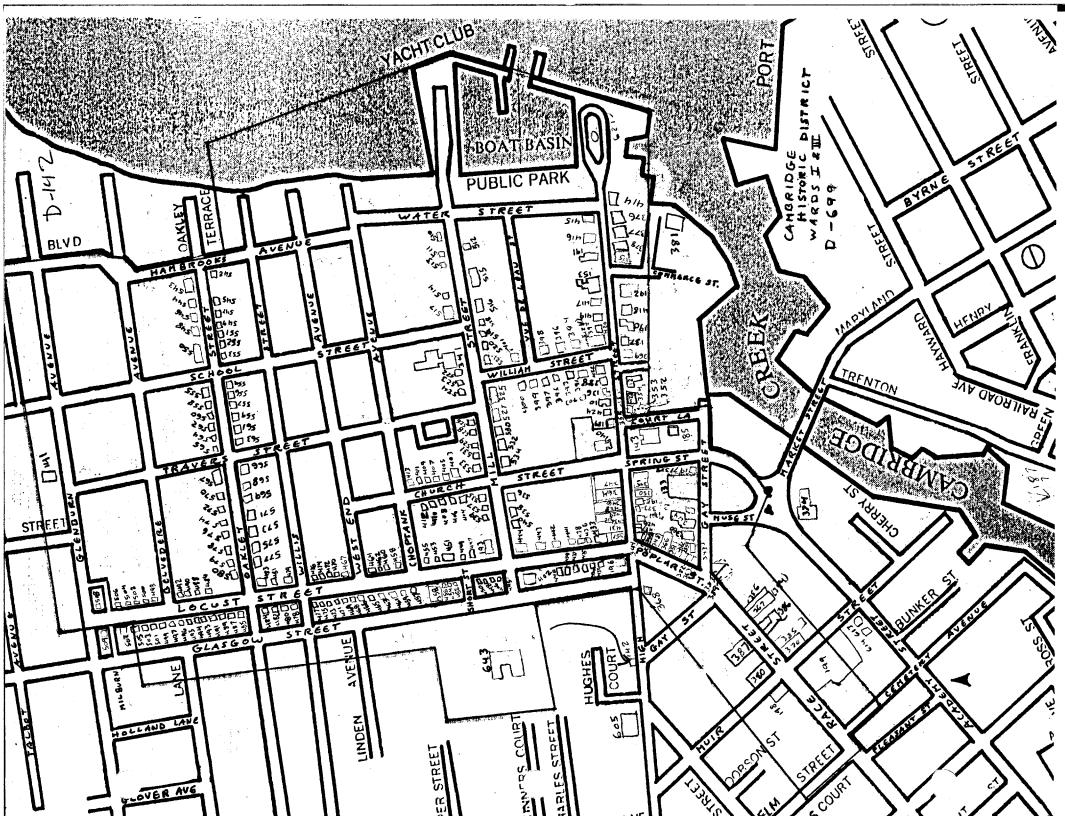
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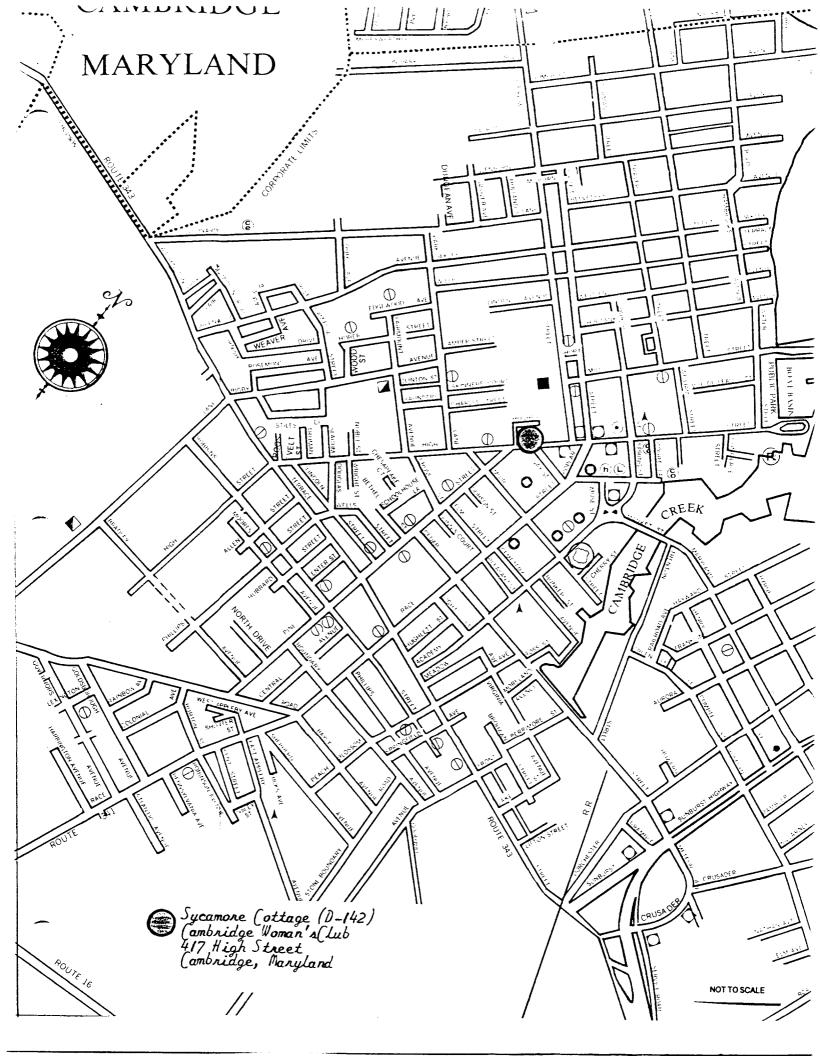
Sycamore Cottage which dates to some time after 1759 was originally the front part of what is now 114 High Street. It was built by Rev. Daniel Maynadier and his wife, Mary Maynadier. Maynadier was a French Huguenot who fled to escape persecution. He was the Rector of Great Choptank Parish from 1765 to 1772. His wife was the granddaughter of the William Vans Murray who purchased this land from John Kirk in 1725. The land was conveyed to Mary by James Murray, son of William Vans Murray, in 1759. She and her husband built Sycamore Cottage shortly thereafter. Four generations of Maynadiers owned Sycamore Cottage. In 1828. it was sold to Henry Page and his wife Charlotte. In 1840, Page sold the front part of his house to Jeremiah Wright, who moved it to its present location on High Street, where is is now used as the headquarters for the Woman's Club.

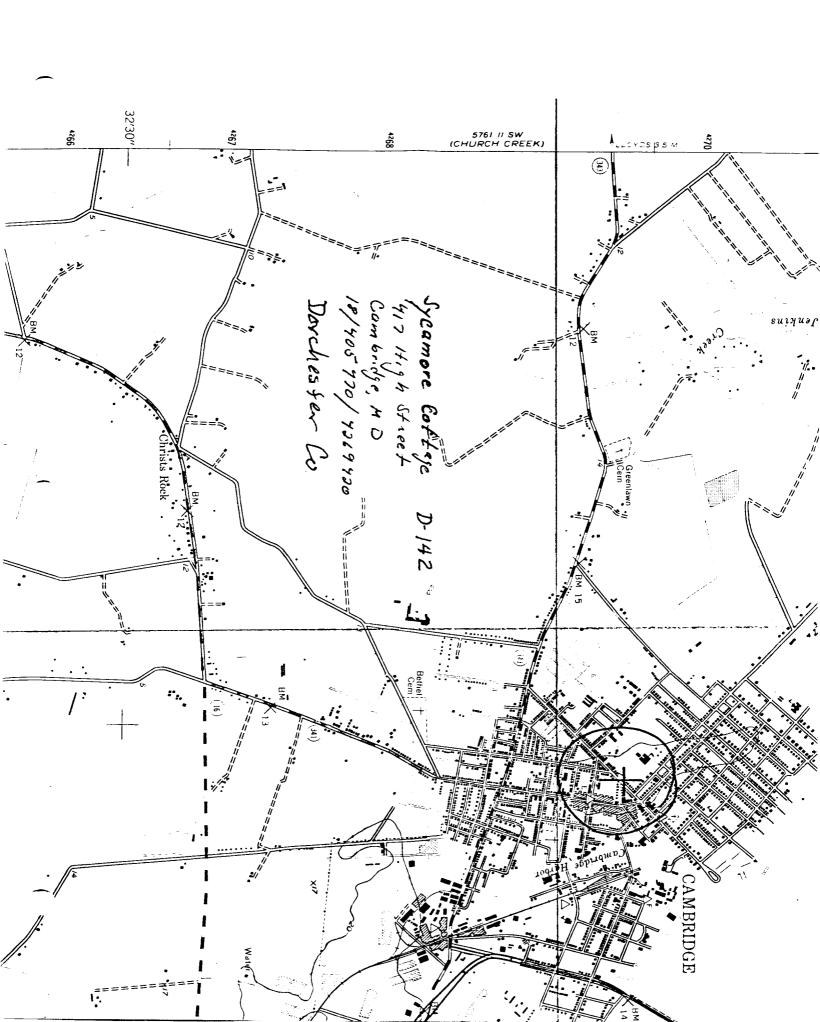
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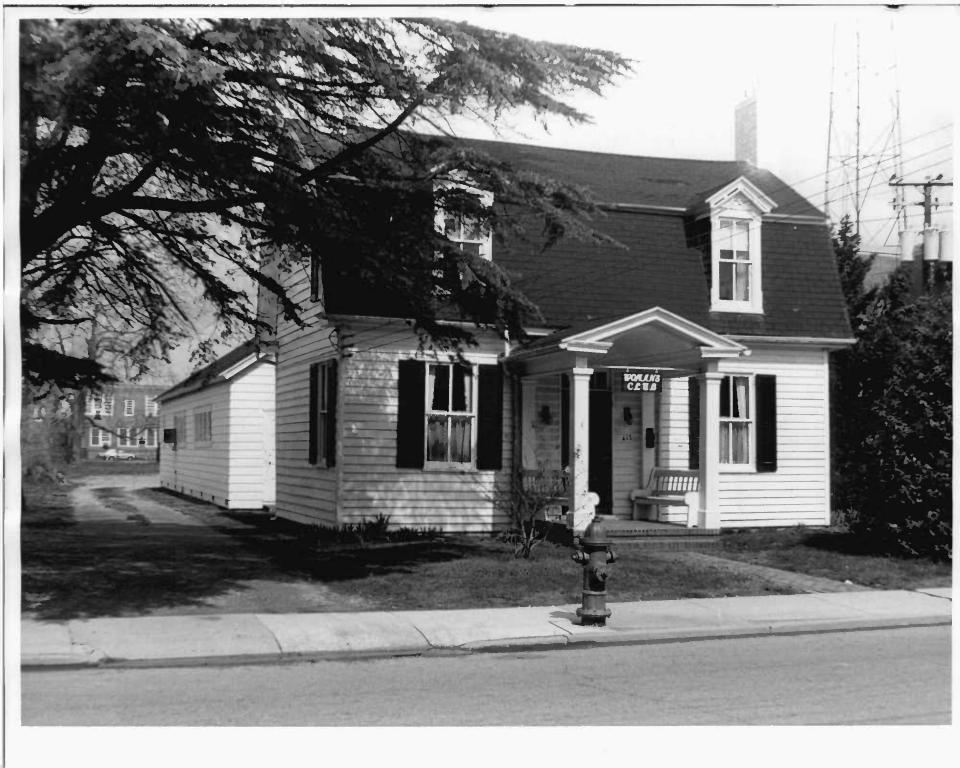
This house is significant as one of the surviving 18th century houses in Cambridge. It is a good example of the Georgian style of architecture, and the exterior has been relatively unaltered, except for the additions to the rear.

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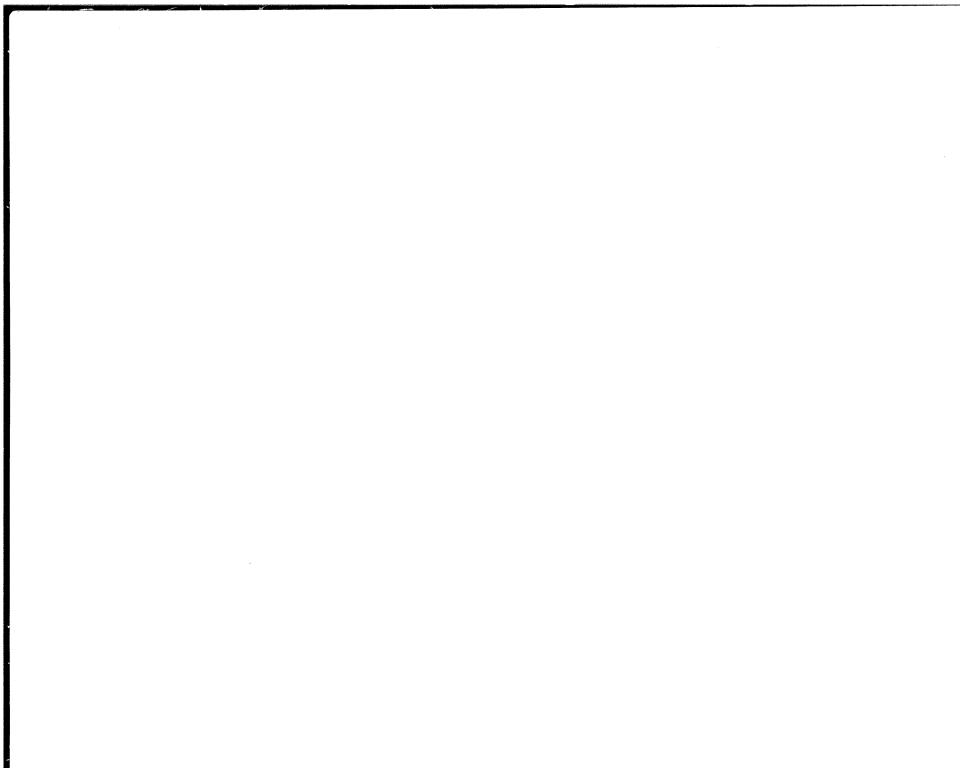
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